TH Trib + TH Sunday Star August 1, 1948

Churches (W)
LDS

Mormon Church Played A Role In Early History Of Terre Haute

Churches (T.H.)

By A. R. Markle.

The first name on the small scrap of paper marked "Grand Jury of Vigo County, Ia." dated in March, 1818, was that of George W. Harris who first appears on deed records as the owner of the piece of land between Nineteenth and Thirtieth streets on the north side of Poplar and extending to Chestnut as it would have been extended beyond the present Nineteenth street. In the deed records between dates of May 30, 1817, and May 21, 1821, he is described as of Batavia, Genessee county, New York. From the records of the Mormon church, he is found to have been the son of James Harris who was born in Berkshire county, Mass., in 1780. When he first came here his wife was named Margaret and as she was not here in person when he sold half of the land mentioned he had to give bond to secure the signature of his wife of that name.

Another Wife Appears.

Margaret died in Batavia in 1828 and in November, 1830, he married Lucinda Morgan there. She was born in Virginia in 1801 to Joseph Pendleton and his wife, Elizabeth (Reilly). Married at the age of 16 to William Morgan and soon after they were in Batavia where he was expelled from the Masonic order. A short time later he was engaged in the publication of an exposition of the "Secrets of Masonery" which was to be published by D. C. Miller, a printer whose shop was in the lower floor of a building owned by Harris, whose silverware shop occupied a half of the front part of the building, the upper floor being his home.

The Morgan Case.

In September, 1826, Morgan was kidnaped and taken away by several prominent officials of the county. It was charged that he was murdered but as no body was found the murder charge was abandoned, the guilty men convicted of abduction and served sentences of various lengths for that. From this rose the "Anti-Masonic movement" that resulted in a nation wide party which, in at least one state, elected a governor on their ticket.

Lucinda Remarries.

In November, 1830, she married, presumably as a widow of Morgan, George W. Harris and soon after they moved to Terre Haute. By Morgan she had two children, named Lucinda Wesley and Thomas. In 1834 Harris and his wife were baptized into the Mormon church by the missionary, Orson Pratt, in Terre Haute and a few years later he was a high counselor at Far West, Missouri. From 1839 to 1845 he was a member of the high council at Nauvoo and when, after the murder of Joseph Smith, the Mormons migrated across Iowa, he was in charge of the commissary. When they reached Kanesville and the call came to join the leaders at Salt Lake City, he was a bishop of a ward and high councilman. Neither Harris nor his wife obeyed this call and about this time she deserted him and he divorced her. She and her children returned to Terre Haute. There is in existence a letter showing that they were both here in 1845, a year after the murder of Smith, but they again joined with the body in the removal from Mauvoo in 1846. Harris died in Council Bluffs in November, 1857, and his estate was administered by a son, Alexander H. Harris.

A record in the archives of the Mormon church states that Harris died before October 7, 1846, but there is certain conclusion there for the records of his estate settlement shows he died in 1857.

Much of the story of Morgan's abduction and supposed death is told in a volume of letters on the subject of Masonry in the San Francisco Public Library. Over 400 pages of this book contain letters and documents referring to correspondence with the Hon. John Quincy Adams and others from 1826 to 1832.

In a small volume published by Edward Gilbert, titled "Ninety Years of Masonry," a history of Lodge No. 19 in Terre Haute, he states that during this period the lodge met in secret, if at all, in connection with the general excitement in the late thirties and early forties. Bitter arguments for and against as well as serious disputes among the various religious sects brought about divisions of some of the churches and the establishment of others.

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

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By John G. Biel 1-24-58-S.

On Sept. 7, 1838, much to the consternation and surprise of the residents of the little town of Terre Haute, a great body of people, horses, wagons, oxen, cattle, hogs, chickens, dogs—and other odds and ends—appeared from the east on the National Road, came down through the town, crossed the Wabash River on the two ferries and left the National Road heading northwest toward what is now Paris, Ill., on the old North Arm Road. This was the main body of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, or Mormans. The whole group stopped long enough at the old cemetery on the river bank in this little town to conduct the funeral and burial of "a daughter of Otis Shumway" who had died "sometime in the night" and of "a child of J. A. Clark" who had died "in the morning."

This group had pitched their tents and camped on the night of Sept. 6, "between two and three miles east of Terre Haute" after traveling thirteen miles from their last camp. They all arose, cooked their breakfasts, packed, broke camp, conducted the funeral and burial and were crossing the Wabash at exactly 12 o'clock noon. Up to this point, the main body of the church had traveled 436 miles from its starting place at Kirtland, Ohio.

It is impossible, in the space we have allotted to us, to give the complete story of this trek of the main body of the church from Kirtland to settle in Missouri, but we will attempt to give the significant points of the trip as it crossed the State of Indiana from Richmond, on the east, to Terre Haute on the west.

+ + +

IN THE EARLY DAYS of this church, there were two organized groups which crossed through the State of Indiana. The first one was known as Zion's Camp, traveling from Kirtland to Missouri in 1834. In 1838, the main body of the church—with which we are concerned now—made its exodus. It was not until the next year—1839—that land was purchased at what later became known as Nauvoo, Ill., and a settlement was formed there.

On Thursday, Aug. 30, 1838, the main body of the church pitched their tents "on the line of Indiana and Ohio, 11 miles from Eaton, having traveled 24 miles and are now 293 miles from Kirtland." On this day a daughter of Otis Shumway died—a sister of the one who died in Terre Haute—and she was buried "in the woods near where we camped at night."

Crossing the Indiana state line, the group went through Richmond, Centerville—which was then the county seat of Wayne County—and then to Germantown where it camped about sunset, traveling only 13 miles. At 8 A. M.—on Sept. 1—the camp started out going through Cambridge, Dublin, Louisville, Flatrock, Roysville and Knight's Town. Camp was made "by the side of the way one mile west of Knight's Town, just at dark." The group had traveled, by now, 335 miles from Kirtland. Joseph Smith wrote, in his history of the church, that "the air was cool in the evening and after the fires were built, which was necessary for our comfort and convenience, our encampment looked beautiful and we attracted the attention of all who passed by, and of the citizens of the neighborhood who declared that our company exceeded any they had before seen in all their lives."

We can well imagine the amazement of the Hoosiers!

+ + +

AT 8 A. M. SUNDAY, thinking "it our duty to go on our way," the company passed through Liberty and Portland but stopped "at noon in Center Township, Hancock County, at Mr. Caldwell's." Here the son of E. P. Merriam died but the body was carried on until the night encampment "on Buck Creek on the west line of Hancock County and the east line of Marion County."

On Monday, Sept. 3, the group arose at 4 "as usual and at half past five Sister Bathsheba Willey, who was sick when we started from Kirtland, died and was buried, together with Brother Merriam's child, in the northeast corner of T. Ruther's orchard, Jones Township, Hancock County, about one-fourth of a mile east from Buck Creek." That afternoon a drunken stage driver, driving one of the stages of J. P. Voorhees, "maliciously ran aside out of his course and struck the forewheel of the wagon "of Lucius N. Scovil . . . and stove it in and dropped it (the wagon); then drove off exulting in his mischief." The company passed through Indianapolis, "the metropolis of the State of Indiana," — without recording another word about it — and camped "on the farm of Brother Miller, one-sixth of a mile west of the city."

On Sept. 4 "the camp was called together in the morning and warned by the Council of the displeasure of our Heavenly Father with some for their wickedness and that His judgments would fall upon them with greater weight than they had if there was not a speedy repentance. The Council also entreated all to be humble and pray much, for the destroyer was in our midst and many were afflicted."

THEY WENT ON, that day, through Plainfield and Belleville and, on the next day, Sept. 5, through Mt. Meridian, Putnamville and Manhattan encamping "by the side of the way just west of Clay County." There was no town of Harmony (not until 1840) and no town of Brazil (not until 1844) at this time.

On Sept. 6, they traveled only 13 miles from "west of Clay County" to "between two and three miles east of Terre Haute." Smith, in his official record of this trip, says that Terre Haute was situ-

Community Affairs File

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

ated "on a swell of land in a beautiful prairie surrounded by a fruitful and fertile country." A fellow by the name of E. Cherry was left in Terre Haute, Smith commenting that "he did not come up and was left behind; his family was sick." There is no record as to whether Cherry went on later or stayed and became a permanent resident on that "swell of land in a beautiful prairie."

This main body of the church—when it did arrive in Missouri—did not get to settle and stay long. They arrived just in time to encounter what has been called "the third prosecution in Missouri." The Mormons were driven out of Missouri and started their settlement at Nauvoo when the State of Illinois granted them extraordinary privileges. It was not long, however, until hostile feelings from citizens and "dissenters" began to appear. The charge of "spiritual wives" was denied but the right of polygamy was granted. The later story of this peoples' trials and tribulations and their nearly unbelievable trek to what is now the state of Utah forms one of the truly great episodes in the history of this Middle West.

When the main body of the church crossed the Wabash River at Terre Haute, it was only fifteen years after the time Joseph Smith announced his visit from the Angel, Moroni, at Palmyra, N. Y., and only 11 years after the time Joseph Smith was given the golden plates, eight inches by four, connected by rings and engraved with Egyptian letters, which he translated and published as The Book of Mormon.

Mormon Church Here Plans $100,000 Chapel Addition

T.H. Churches

T.H. Star 8/1/68

By FRANCES HUGHES
Star Staff Writer

Announcement is made by the Branch Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints that a new $100,000 chapel will be built adjoining the present meeting house of the church at 1845 N. 6½ St.

The local presidency, which is also the building committee, includes Robert Drummond, branch president; Dr. Oran Knudsen, first counselor, and Dr. Sherwin Baer, counselor.

This is the only Mormon church in Terre Haute, and in the past eight years its membership has grown rapidly. It was founded here at least 45 years ago.

Originally members of this church met at the YWCA, later buying a house at the present site where church services were held. In 1961, the present meeting house was built, and the next year the house was torn down.

+ + +

In 1966, the rest of the block on the east side of North Sixth and One-half Street from Ash to Buckeye Street was purchased by the church.

The new chapel will be on the south side of the meeting house which is on the north half of the property, facing Sixth and One-half Street. Since the present meeting house was built to accomodate 125 persons and there is now a membership of 374, the new chapel will be erected to handle approximately 450 members with a plan for future growth in membership.

Also, church members are looking ahead to two more phases—a Junior Sunday School building and a cultural hall which will include a gymnasium and Relief Society meeting place. When all of this is completed, three-fourths of the present lot will be used. Later, the south end of the lot on Ash Street will be made into a parking lot.

The church also owns the lot on the northwest corner of Sixth and One-half and Buckeye Street, for which plans will be made later.

+ + +

The Junior Sunday School now meets in another small house on the lot.

Members of the local church will help to build the new chapel both financially and physically. According to rules of the Mormon Church, 30 per cent of the money for the building must be provided locally with the other 70 per cent come from headquarters of the Mormon Church in Salt Lake City.

The present meeting house is tan brick with a panel front or orange ceramic. It contains a large assembly room, classrooms and a baptismal font.

In the new building, there will be a meeting chapel 40 by 60 feet. Advance plans have been approved by the First Presidency of the Mormon Church in Salt Lake City, as must all plans be approved before construction.

+ + +

Shalton Hannig, Inc., contractors, is now making architectural drawings and when completed in several months, again approval must come from the First Presidency as well as from the local Branch Presidency of the church. Contractors must then submit bids, and the building probably will be started late this fall.

There are five different types of architecture in the church program, and the local branch may select one of these five later to be approved again by the First Presidency.

To get the money locally for the chapel, members have picked asparagus during the season for the past two years at an asparagus farm near here, have had food booths at the Vigo County Fair for two years (and will do so again this year), have had donations from the membership above tithing, and the women have held bake sales, rummage sales and had other projects.

+ + +

Robert Drummond has been branch president for four years, succeding Norman Turner. The church has no paid ministry, and from its membership a branch president is called by approval of the mission presidency. The Great Lakes Mission, under which district the local church is included, has headquarters in Fort Wayne. This is the missionary home where the missionary president and his wife live and direct activities of all missionaries in Indiana, Ohio and a small part of Kentucky that make up this mission.

A man with a pleasing and dynamic personality, Drummond says of his church and its membership: "We believe in living our religion seven days a week. We have a program for youth, a Mutual Interest Association for young people, a primary group, Junior Sunday School, Relief Society for women, Priesthood for men, and our sacrament meetings are held at 5 p.m. each Sunday."

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Community Affairs File

Churches (W.V.)
L.D.S.

Churches WV
LDS

Dr. Baer patriarch for ared Mormons

JULY 6 1978

Dr. Sherwin H. Baer is to serve as a patriarch for over 3,000 members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in central Indiana.

Dr. Baer, a member of the Indiana State University special education faculty, has resided in the Terre Haute area for 13 years and has served the Mormon Church as president of the Terre Haute Branch. During his presidency, the church saw completion of the second and third phases of the chapel construction.

He was serving as a member of the Stake High Council at the time he was ordained by Elder

SHERWIN BAER

Marvin J. Ashton, a member of the Council of the Twelve Apostles. Larry G. Anderson will fill the vacancy created on the State High Council as an alternate member. He will assist the presidency in the administration of church affairs in 12 Mormon wards and branches in central Indiana. His major responsibilities will be in the area of leadership training.

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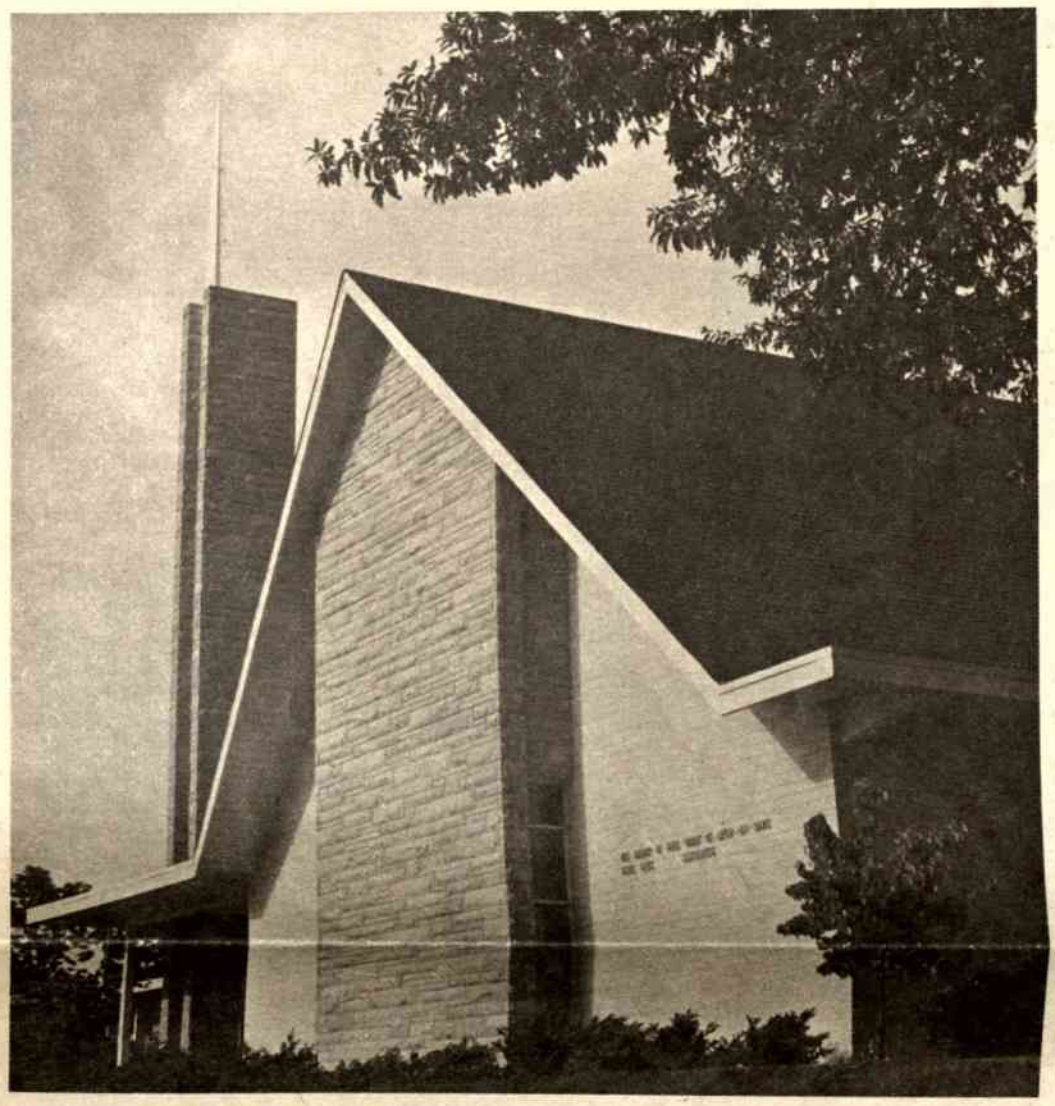
LOCAL MORMON CHURCH HOLDS PIONEER DAYS CELEBRATION

House of Photography Photos.



Pioneer Day is celebrated each year on July 24 by all Mormons to commemorate the arrival of the pioneers in the Salt Lake Valley after the 1,300-mile trek from Nauvee, through the sparsely settled Iowa territory, across the Missouri into the lands of the Omaha, the Sioux and the Ute Indians. It was midwinter 1846 when the first of the Mormon exiles left on their journey for religious freedom to the barren Rocky Mountain Valleys, making their way into the Valley of the Great Salt Lake, which Brigham Young declared to be the chosen place for them to settle.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was organized on April 6, 1830. Some 85,000 pioneers made the trek by wagon to the Salt Lake Valley between 1849 and 1869, many walking the entire distance, pulling or pushing handcarts. Many left husbands, wives or children in shallow graves along the trail.

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Ts AUG 24 1975

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THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST of Latter-Day Saints was the scene of the annual Pioneer Day Celebration commemorating the courageous trek of 1,300 miles made by the pioneers from Nauvee to the Salt Lake Valley, arriving on July 24, 1847.

PONY RIDES were fun for those attending the Pioneer Day Celebration of local Mormons at the church, 1845 N. 6½ St.

THE NAME OF THIS GAME was Hop Sack Race and it was obviously fun for these participants.

Ts AUG 2 4 1975

TWO-MAN SAW is demonstrated by Bennie Dykes and Pat Hoctor.

WHEELBARROW RACE—John Salyer and Larry Anderson competed against Harvey Salyer and Kelly Anderson.

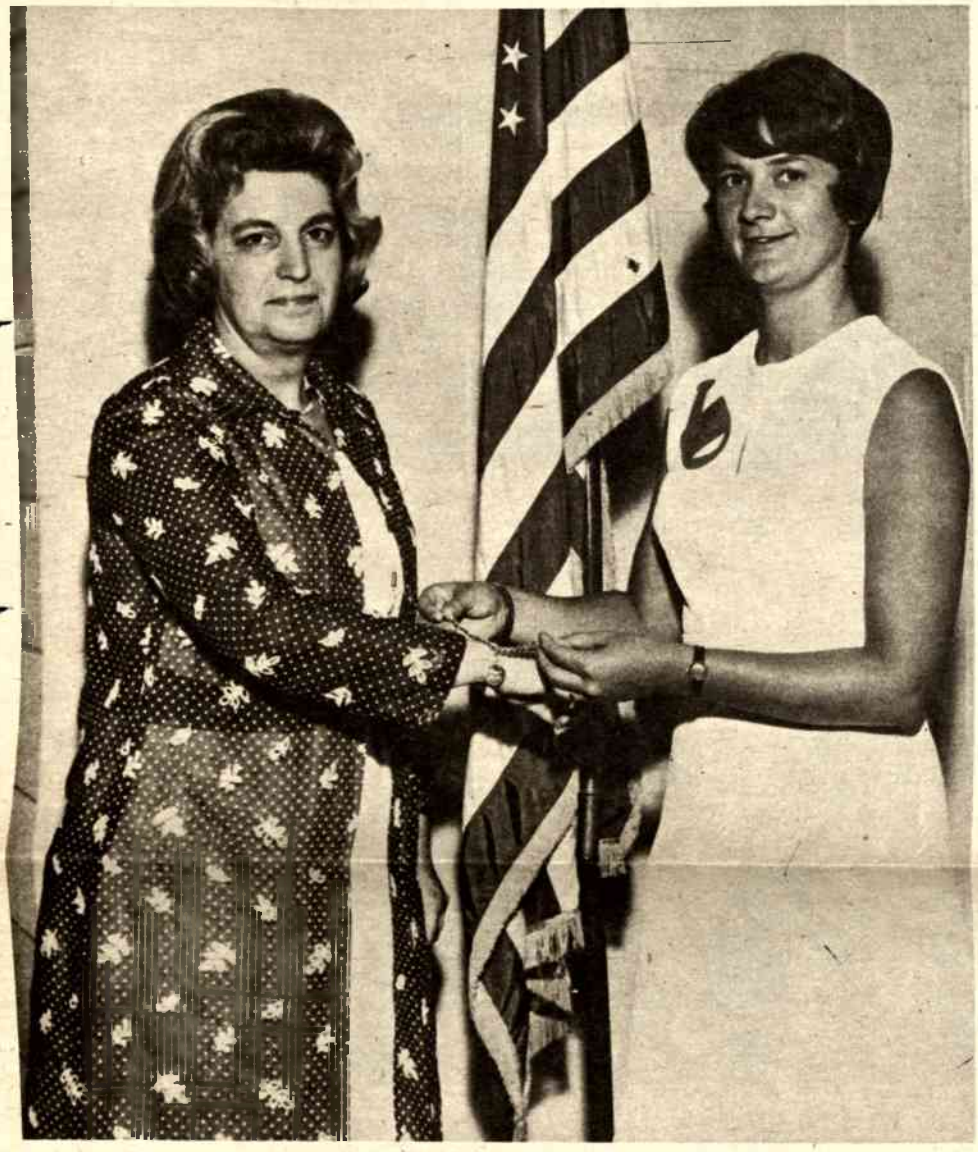
WAITING FOR THE STAGECOACH—In the group were Jane Worthington, Wendy Growcock, Brian Smith, Robbie Muncie and Gwen Kearschner, standing, and Pat Hoctor, kneeling.

NAILING—Robert Growcock and Curtis Sayler show how it's done.

WATERMELON EATERS included Sharon Hoctor, Denise Hill and Amy Smith.

EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS HOLD ACHIEVEMENT DAY AT K OF C

Photos by Strausburg



MRS. JOHN T. CRAIG, left, the "Jane Award" winner, was congratulated by county extension agent Carol Turner.

OFFICERS AND GUEST SEAKER at Achievement Day gathered around this floral display for a group picture. Seated are Suzy Cole, vice president, and Carol Turner, extension agent. Standing are Nola Goda, treasurer; Jane Amerman, historian; Dorothy J. Clark, guest speaker; Lena Hopewell, health and safety chairman, and Virginia Oard, secretary. Hazel Mikles, president, is not shown.

MEMBERS OF EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS CLUBS filled the Knights of Columbus dining room for the annual Achievement Day program.

BRAZIL BETHEL 29 of Job's Daughters International recently installed Debi Butts as Honored Queen.

TAKING THE OATH—Engineman Third Class Donald R. Cook, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Cook, 1320 1st Ave., receives the oath from Capt. Hollingsworth at the Norfolk, Va, Navy base, as his wife, the former Patricia Ann Higgins, looks on.

FOUR GENERATIONS—Former Terre Haute family includes Edward J. Jones, his daughter Sharon Dorn, mother of Jason Lee Dorn, and Edward L. Jones. The elder Mr. Jones lives in Owensboro, Ky. The rest of the family lives in Longwood, Fla.

KIMBERLEE DREHER was recently installed as Honored Queen of Bethel No. 5, Job's Daughters, in Clinton.

Indiana Latter Day Saints Reorganize Local Church

NOV 25 1972

A major reorganization of the Indianapolis division of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has been completed by including the Terre Haute Branch and placing a member of the branch in leadership.

Formerly a part of the Southern Indiana District of the church, it has mission status. It will now function along with 13 other wards and branches in the Indianapolis division.

Uwe J. Hansen, associate professor of physics at Indiana State University, was named as a member of the Indianapolis Council. The council, composed of high priests, advises and assists the presidency in guiding the administrative and religious affairs of the wards and branches.

The leadership of the Terre Haute Branch will continue as at present, with Sherwin H. Baer as president, R. Thomas Growcock as first counselor, and R. Dean Hill as second counselor. Branch clerk is John Lunceford.

There is no paid ministry in the LDS practice and all officers and leaders continue in their occupations. Hansen, of 715 S. 34th St., has been on the ISU faculty since 1968. He is a native of Kiel, Germany, and holds BS, MS and PhD degrees from Brigham Young University. He previously was president of the Terre Haute Branch and has served the church in several offices, including a counselor in the presidency of the Finnish Mission.

Baer is professor of speech and audiology at ISU. Growcock is an engineer at J. I. Case, Inc., and Hill is associate professor of chemistry at Rose-Hulman Institute. Lunceford is a librarian at ISU.

The Terre Haute Branch has 622 members and becomes one of the largest units in the Indianapolis area. It was first organized in the 1920s and a new chapel was completed for the branch at 1845 N. 6½ St. recently. Branch members include those living in the area roughly bounded by Greencastle, Farmersburg and Marshall, Ill.

The Indianapolis division now has about 6,300 members and is composed of units in West Lafayette, Kokomo, Anderson, Muncie, Shelbyville, Columbus, Bloomington, Martinsville, Bedford and four wards in Indianapolis.

Philip F. Low of West Lafayette is president. He is a professor of agronomy at Purdue University.

Community Affairs File

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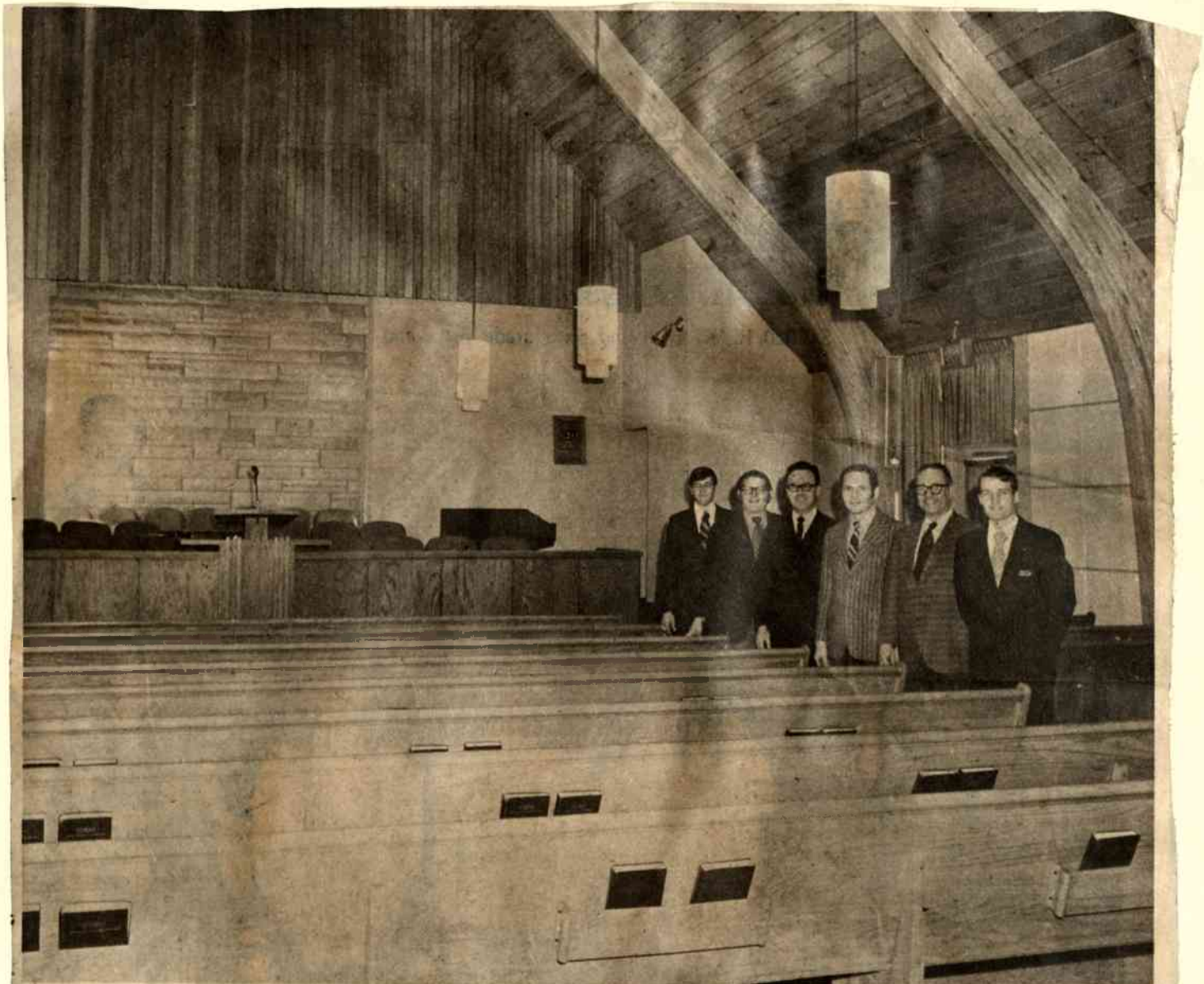
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA



CHURCH LEADERS at the new chapel of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints, 1845 N. 6½ St., are, from left: Elder Ted Jenne, full-time missionary; Dr. R. Dean Hill, second counselor in the Branch presidency; Dr. Uwe J. Hansen, former Terre Haute Branch president; Dr. Sherwin H. Baer, Terre Haute Branch president; R. Thomas Growcock, first counselor in the Branch presidency, and Elder William Call, full-time missionary.

Martin Photo.

LDS

T MAR 17 1979

Churches (LDS)

Mormons conduct door-to-door belief survey

Community Affairs File

Six missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) are currently conducting a survey of religious beliefs in Vigo County.

They are part of a state-wide field survey being conducted in Indiana by some 200 Mormon missionaries.

Surveyors include Brent Stock of Farmington, N.M.; Richard Bailey, Afton, Wyo.; Bill Lunt, Provo, Utah; Verlyn Ashton, Pleasant Grove, Utah.

Two other missionaries, Gary Liston of Escalante, Utah, and Steve Samuelian of Huntington Beach, Calif., will survey students at Indiana State University.

The missionaries (working in teams of two) will go door-to-door each day from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. asking residents questions concerning their religious beliefs.

The teams should be active though mid-April and results of the survey will be available at the local Mormon Church, 6½ and Ash streets.

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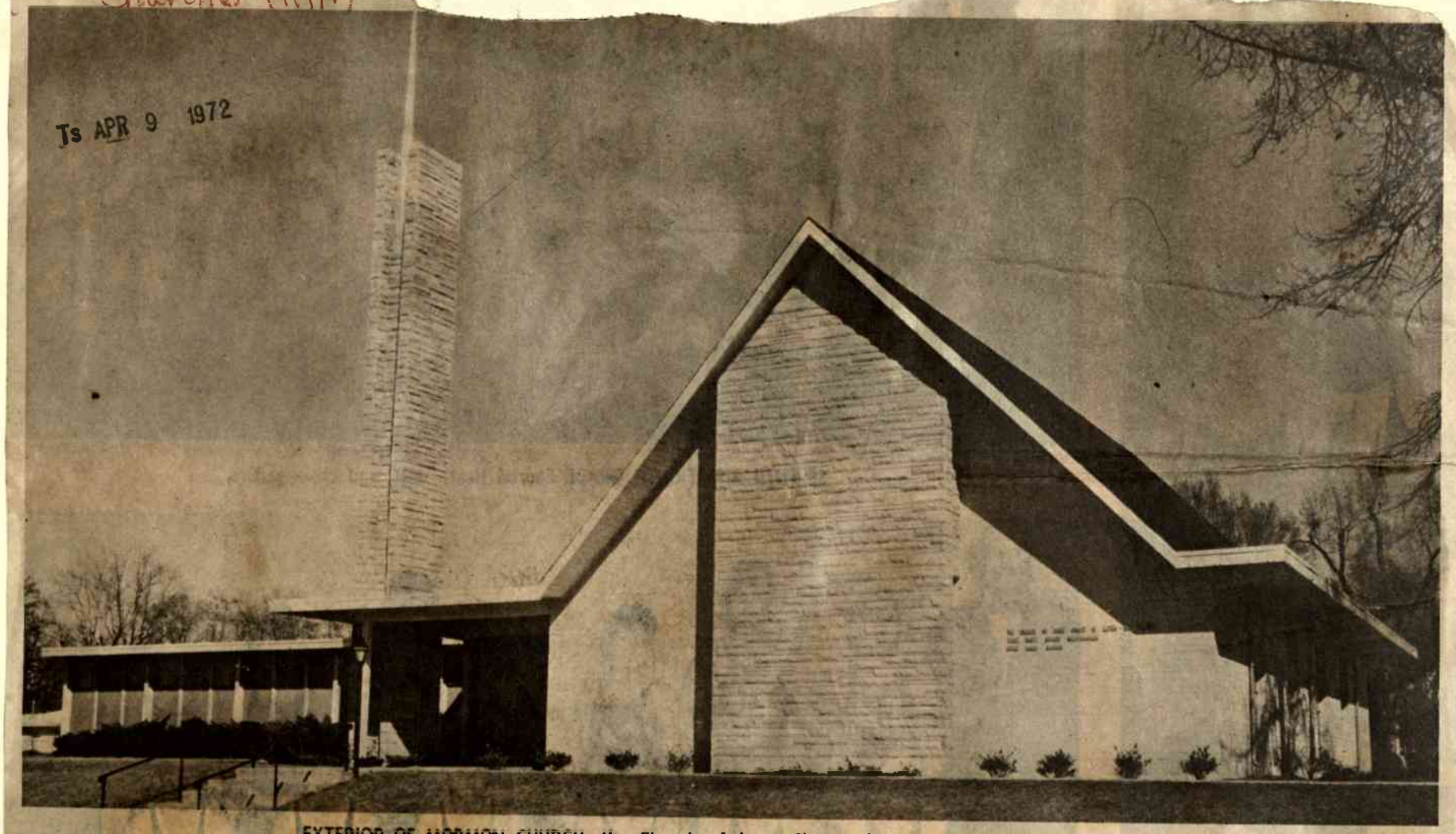
Churches (T.H.)

Ts APR 9 1972



EXTERIOR OF MORMON CHURCH, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. A new chapel was dedicated March 26, followed by an open house during the afternoon and evening. Martin Photo.

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LDS
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T.H. Churches
STAR 10/25/69

Construction Started On New Chapel Here

By FRANCES HUGHES
Star Staff Writer

Construction has been started on the new $130,000 capel to be built adjoining the present meeting house of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at 1845 N. 6½ St.

Announcement has been made by Uwe J. Hansen, branch president of the church, the $130,000 was awarded as the building contract with the remainder of the money to be used for interior decorating and furnishing.

The local branch presidency of of the church, which is also the building committee, includes, besides Hansen, Dr. Sherwin Baer, first counselor, and Gary Hatch, second counselor.

The contract on the building calls for completion April 5, 1970. Shelton Hanning, Inc., contractors, were the architects.

In addition, the south end of the lot, on which the present church and new chapel are situated, is being paved with asphalt for a new parking lot for the congregation.

+ + +

This is the only Mormon church in Terre Haute, and in the past eight years its membership has grown rapidly. It was founded here at least 45 years ago.

Originally members of this church met at the YMCA, later buying a house at the present site where church services were held. In 1961, the present meeting house was built, and the next year the house was torn down.

In 1966, the rest of the block on the east side of North Sixth and One-half Street from Ash to Buckeye Street was purchased by the church.

The new chapel is being built on the south side and connected to the meeting house which is on the north half of the property, facing Sixth and One-half Street.

Since the present meeting house was built to accomodate 125 persons and there is now a membership of 374, the new chapel is being erected to handle approximately 450 members with a plan for future growth in membership.

+ + +

The present meeting house is tan brick with a panel front of orange ceramic. It contains a large assembly room, classrooms and a baptismal font.

In the new building, there will be a tower and a meeting chapel 40 by 60 feet. Final plans have been approved by the First Presidency of the Mormon Church in Salt Lake City, as must all plans be approved before construction.

Also, church members are looking ahead to two more phases — a Junior Sunday School building and cultural hall which will include a gymnasium and Relief Society meeting place. When all of this is completed, three-fourths of the present lot will be used. The other fourth is the parking lot.

The Junior Sunday School now meets in another small house on the lot.

+ + +

Members of the local church will help to build the new chapel both financially and physically. According to rules of the Mormon Church, 20 per cent of the money for the building must be provided locally with the other 80 per cent coming from headquarters of the Mormon Church.

To get the money locally for the chapel, members picked asparagus during the season for two years at an asparagus farm near here, have had food booths at the Vigo County Fair for three years, have had donations from the membership above tithing, and the women have held bake sales, rummage sales and had other projects.

The church had no paid ministry, and from its membership a branch president is called by approval of the mission presidency. The Great Lakes Mission, under which district the local church is included, had headquarters in Fort Wayne.

The church also owns the lot on the northwest corner of Sixth and One-half and Buckeye Streets, for which plans will be made later.

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MORMON CHURCH MEMBERS HELD A VERY SPECIAL BICENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE

Churches (WV)
LDS

Ts OCT 3 1 1976

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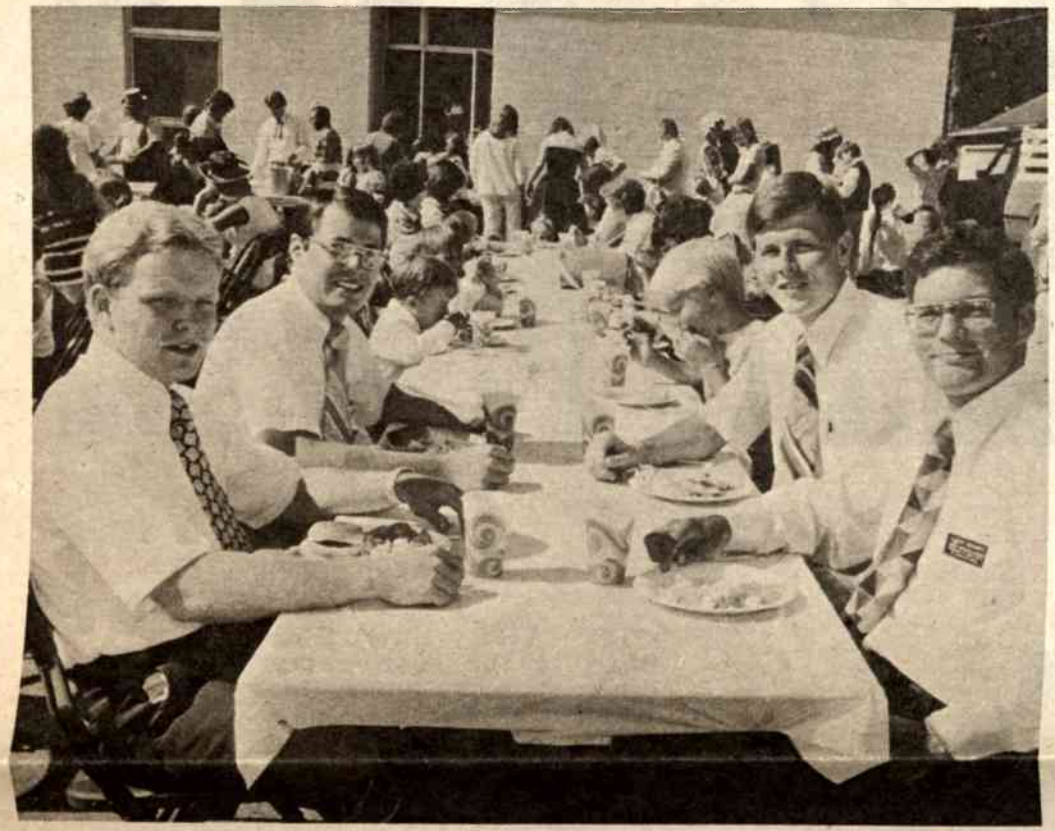


ELDERS OF THE CHURCH (Doty, Bernion, Robinson and Denney) were among the many enjoying the Bicentennial observance at the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

A SACK RACE was lots of fun for youngsters at the Bicentennial celebration put on by the congregation of the Church of the Latter Day Saints. Most wore pioneer costumes for the occasion, and many long ago traditions and customs were revived for the day.

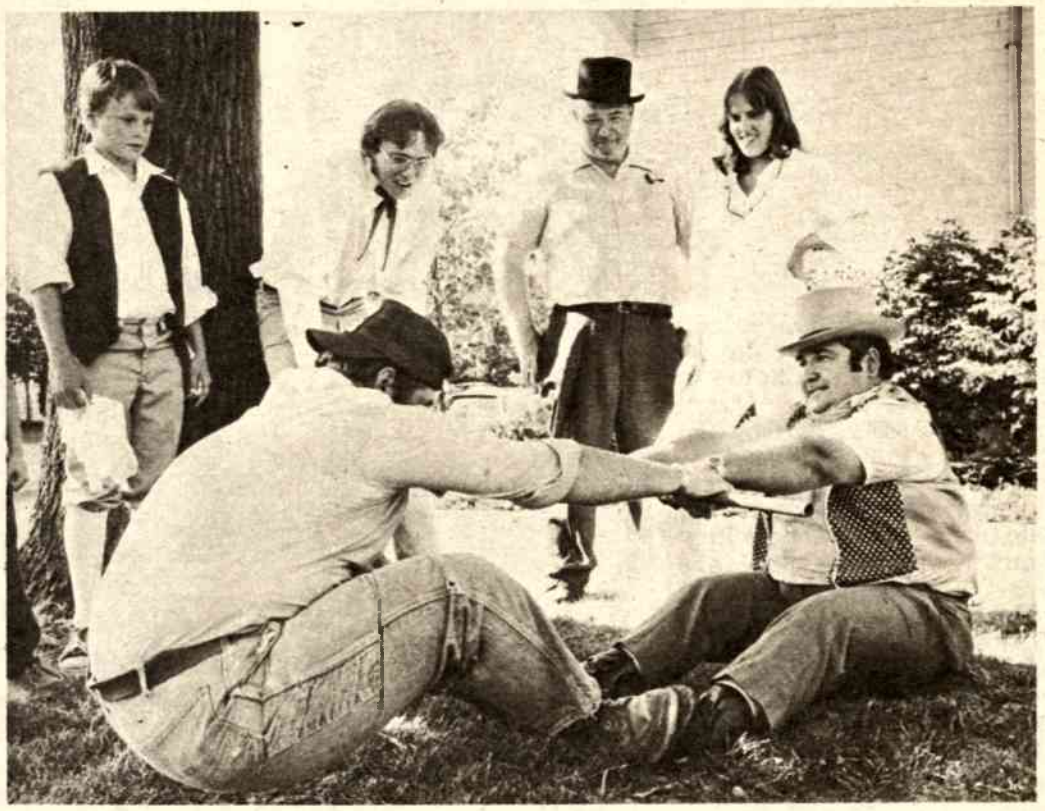
Terre Haute, Tribune-Star, October 31, 1976.

NEW PLEDGES of the Indiana State University chapter of Alpha Tau Omega posed for a group picture at the fraternity house on South Sixth Street.

WHY THE SMILES? Because the rush party dreamed up by Gamma Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha was such fun. It was held, apparently, on the floor of the Southland Branch Library.

BROWNIE TROOP 378 at Terre Town School held an investiture ceremony recently in the school's multipurpose room.

COLOR GUARD — Robert Growcock, Matt Worthington and Mark Hansen.



BRUTE STRENGTH was needed to win this contest.

ACTORS in a play depicting Nathan Hale were the Hughes boys, Monte, 10, and Scott, 11.

LITTLE JOSHUA KEARSCHNER tackles picnic fare.

Terre Haute, Tribune-Star, October 31, 1976.

THE CLASS OF 1937 of St. Joseph's Academy held a recent reunion at the home of Mrs. Ed Muraski. In front row are Mrs. Mary C. (Murphy) Hooper, president; Dorothy Hayden, secretary; Marian Kintz, treasurer, and Mrs. Kintz, sponsor. In back row are Mrs. Frances (Quielt) Breneman, Christina (Baker) Graham, Mrs. Agnes (Brassie) Belfi, Mrs. Loretta (Hauer) Seeburger and Mrs. Theresa (Olah) Muraski.

WILEY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS of 1946 gathered for a reunion 30 years after graduation at the Holiday Inn.

Terre Haute, Tribune-Star, October 31, 1976.

Local sources aid family roots search

Churches (TH.) LDS

Ts JAN 25 1981

By FRANCES E. HUGHES

Publication of Alex Haley's family history, "Roots," in 1976 inspired many Americans to research the genealogies of their families.

Haley's Afro-American genealogy was researched clear back to slave days and many families have been able to trace their histories back through several generations since then.

In addition to correspondence and interviews with other members of the families, especially older relatives, those working on such histories are visiting the libraries, genealogical societies and the local Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at 1835 North Center Street to obtain information.

One of the most valuable collections of secondary genealogical data in existence is the Temple Records Index Bureau in the Genealogical Department of the Mormon Church, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Through the Wabash Valley Genealogical Society Library in the local church, which holds the society records and some church records, this Index in Salt Lake City may provide some information to local researchers.

The local library records are open to the public free of charge from 1 until 4 p.m. every Thursday. Individuals and members of the local genealogical society and Clan Diggers group; researchers from Sullivan, Brazil, Cory, Indianapolis and Clinton, and some from Marshall and Paris, Ill., as well as a few from other states as far away as California, use the local library.

Some of these people are members of other societies such as the Sullivan County Genealogical Society, Clay County Genealogical Society and the Clark County Genealogical Society, Clark County, Ill.

Ms. Lena P. Smith is the local librarian, with Ms. Dola Braner and Ms. Marie Knudsen as her assistants. Wayne Smith is president of the society and he and his wife are members of the church.

The Wabash Valley Genealogical Society meets the fourth Thursday of each month at the library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Also, a beginners class was started Jan. 7 at the church by the society. The class is the second and fourth Thursday afternoons of each month from 2 until 3 p.m. It is being taught by Ms. Virginia Kennedy for a small fee.

Organized in June 1970, the local society's aim is to try to help those persons who are doing genealogy and those who are just beginning their research. A Genealogy Quarterly, which is exchanged with about 80 other genealogy societies and received by each member of the local organization, is published. Copies of these also are in the library.

Available at the library are a surname file, some census microfilm, books, marriage records, cemetery records, quaker records, family history books and plenty of genealogy materials and forms. Helpers are always present every Thursday to assist persons who need assistance.

The Genealogical Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Salt Lake City is the largest genealogical library in the world and there may be found records from all over the world. Many of these records are available through branch libraries of the church throughout the United States and other places. The closest Branch Library of the church is in Indianapolis, where there is a card file of what is available and what it costs to send for it.

Organized in 1894, the Genealogical Department was originally named the Genealogical Society of Utah. This was a year following the completion of the Salt Lake Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. There are now 17 temples of the church and others are being planned.

Starting with three million index cards in 1927 when the card-file index to all endowments was first prepared, after being started in 1922, by 1969 there were thirty million cards. Now, the cards number sixty million.

This index is called the Temple Records Index Bureau (TIB). Compilation of a pedegree through several generations may be obtained from information in this file.

The system became a static file in 1927. The manner of processing and storing information electronically was started in 1961 and practically all records have been stored by computer since 1969.

This Computer File Index is now printed on microfiche (sheets of plastic on which the images are reduced to small sizes read only on a special machine). The index to the microfiche is available at the local Genealogical Library.

Vigo County Public Library

Community Affairs File

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To use this index, if a person finds a name being sought or a clew that might help in research desired, a form may be obtained at the local library to be sent to the Genealogical Society in Salt Lake City. A copy of the record, fron whom it was obtained and this person's address is then received. This makes it possible for direct correspondence with that person.

Research papers that may be helpful in genealogical research in specific areas of the world also are available at the local library.

Thus, the Wabash Valley Genealogical Society Library at the local Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, in co-operation of the church and the society, gives great assistance to those now doing genealogical research.

Although most people do not seem to become interested in the histories of their families until they are older and members of the past generations are not still living, it is interesting to note that in recent years many young people also have started to research the histories of their families.

These records are valuable not only now but to future generations in preserving the history of our country and its people.

APR 3 1976

YOUNG MISSIONARIES — Eight young men and women missionaries of the Mormon Church, 1845 N. 6½ St., are presently serving their church in the local community. Pictured are, seated, from left, Ken Hornaday, Karen Arave and Patricia Price. Standing, from left, Ryan Ricks, David Robinson, Kirk MacKay, Kevin Holt and Kevin Jensen. Strausburg Photo.

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Churches
WV
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Mormon Missionaries Working in Vigo Area

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Eight representatives of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints have been appointed to serve in the Terre Haute area. According to President Keith W. Wilcox of the Indiana Indianapolis Mission (Mormon) the newly assigned missionaries are available to explain the eternal concepts involving the questions "Where did we come from." "Why are we here?." and "Where are we going after this life is over?"

The local missionaries are among eight of the 200 missionaries in the Indiana mission and among 25,000 world wide in the Mormon Church. Those assigned locally are Elders Rick, Robinson, Holt, Jenson, MacKay, and Hornaday. Two lady missionaries, Sister Arave, and Sister Price are also here. Elder Ricks said "As we talk with people about their hopes and asperations, we find most people seek to know more of what their role in the eternities will be. The Mormon Church teaches that mortal life is a necessary step in achieving exaltation with God in the eternities and that there are a number of things that must be accomplished in this life." The missionaries daily activities during their 24-month mission are to explain Christian principals and concepts to interested parties.

Elder Ryan Ricks is from Idaho Falls, Idaho. As his two-year mission is near completion he will return to Ricks College in a general course of study. Elder Dave Robinson is from Boise, Idaho. Upon return he will attend Brigham Young University (BYU) to study law. Elder Kevin Holt from New Castle, Utah, nearing the end of his mission, will resume his studies in Architecture at Utah Technical College. Elder Kevin Jensen from Dietrich, Idaho, plans to attend BYU for general study. Elder Kirk MacKay from Salt Lake City, has interests in medicine at BYU upon his return. Elder Kenneth Hornaday plans to attend Weber State, majoring in physical education. His home is in Ogden, Utah. Sister Karen Aravey is from Hooper, Utah. Upon the completition of her mission she will attend Weber College taking general courses. Sister Pati Price, of Mesa, Ariz., plans to continue her B.S. degree in health science at Arizona State.

Elder Robinson said "We all enjoy working here in Terre Haute. The people are very friendly and its a nice place to serve."

The local congregation of Mormons, organized as the Terre Haute Ward meets, at 1845 N. 6½ St. Services are. Priesthood meeting Sunday at 9 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m., and the main worship service, sacrament meeting each Sunday at 4 p.m.

Vigo County Public Library
Community Affairs File

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
1845 N. Center

January 7, 1973

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST of Latter Day Saints, 1845 N. Center St., added a new educational wing, which was dedicated in the spring of 1972.